

Docket No. DP310566

ABSTRACT

A piston assembly for a magneto-rheological fluid damper is provided that exhibits good sealing properties at elevated temperatures. The piston assembly comprises a piston rod having an axial bore therethrough, a piston core coupled to a distal end of the piston rod for movement therewith, an electrical terminal located on the piston core, a conductor, a sealing member and a support member. The conductor is coupled to the terminal to form an electrical connection and passes through the bore in the piston rod. The sealing member is adjacent to the distal end of the piston rod for preventing the penetration of fluid into the bore. The support member is located and sized to block an opening into the bore to prevent the sealing member from being forced through the opening when the piston assembly is subjected to pressure. In another aspect, the support member is slideable over the conductor from a proximal position in which the end of the conductor is exposed to a distal position in which the electrical connection at the end of the conductor is covered.